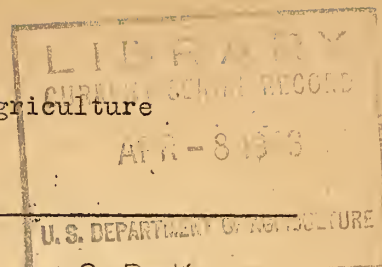


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W A R T I M E E X T E N S I O N W O R K

SUMMARY OF EXTENSION WORK, TECHNIQUES, AND RESULTS BASED ON STATE REPORTS

Reports from State Extension Services this week show that by far the major effort of field extension workers was in connection with farm mobilization to meet 1943 production goals. Extension services in State after State, in close cooperation with other war board agencies, are assuming a major role in educational work to explain production needs and organize farmers to meet them, and to follow through by giving the "know how" necessary to good farming required to meet the goals. Stress is being put on home food production, Victory Gardens, mobilizing farm youth, farm machinery, and 1943 good farming plans, as can be seen from the following summary of reports from five States:

Summary No. 40
January 16, 1943

ARKANSAS

December 1, 1942

Production goals.- County agents held 316 production goal meetings attended by 10,478; of these meetings 49 were held by Negro agents with attendance of 2,283.

Community planning.- In community planning meetings, agents discussed with local people problems of labor shortage, equipment, machinery repairs, marketing facilities, tire shortage, gasoline rationing, and drafting of farmers.

Food-for-Victory campaign.- Emphasis placed on training local leaders, marketing, consumer interest, rationing programs, and organization for 1943. In leader training, 274 meetings held with 4,454 attending; including 82 held by Negro agents with attendance of 1,334. Special assistance with Victory Gardens given 2,860 families.

Marketing.- In furthering marketing of eggs, cream, poultry and poultry products, dairy animals and dairy products, soybeans, sweetpotatoes, peanuts and truck crops, agents gave 81 method demonstrations attended by 1,549; held 72 other meetings attended by 1,164; assisted 41 organized groups and 1,120 individuals in marketing problems.

Nutrition.- Home demonstration agents attended 83 nutrition meetings on share-the-meat, block system, food rationing, food preparation, waste fat salvage, conservation. Participated in 48 cooking schools attended by 1,206 farm women; established 46 nutrition classes with enrollment of 1,248; including 10 started by Negro agents with enrollment of 370. Maintained 38 nutrition centers to which 1,329 persons came for information.

School lunches.- Assisted by home demonstration agents, 208 schools participating in hot lunch program, serving 18,286 children.

Farm machinery.- Agents held 57 meetings on farm machinery care and repair, with attendance of 1,430 farmers.

Salvage.- Scrap iron collection discussed in 257 community meetings attended by 8,096. Collections during month resulted in sale of 12,594 tons.

4-H Clubs.- Clubs reorganized for 1943 production program; 326 Victory Clubs organized with 12,851 members; and 1,069 individual members signed up for Victory demonstrations. Of Victory Clubs 152 were organized by Negro agents with membership of 5,789, and 906 Negro 4-H members enrolled for Victory demonstrations.

CONNECTICUT
January 1

Production goals - farm mobilization.- Extension given definite assignment by State USDA War Board to handle all educational work in campaign to reach all farmers with information on production goals. Farm-management specialist chairman of committee to plan campaign; extension editor will handle publicity. Tentative steps in campaign will be --

Publication of leaflet outlining 1943 goals, reasons for them, and USDA program to assist farmers in meeting them. To be distributed through county agent offices to all farmers early in January.

Publicity to coincide with national publicity on January 12 (Farm Mobilization Day) reaching farmers through radio and printed word.

Preparation of series of 4 leaflets to follow Farm Mobilization Day and be distributed through county agent offices. Titles: How to meet milk production goals; How to meet egg production goals; Manpower to meet the food production goals; Machinery to meet the food production goals.

Schools for AAA community committeemen, between January 15 and 30, with extension specialists and county agents in charge of training.

Farm-to-farm canvass, starting February 1. Forms to be used are being prepared for War Board approval.

Victory Gardens.-- State Defense Council has appointed full-time man to head program of food production and conservation. Man selected has already conferred with Extension and there will be complete cooperation between the two agencies on all work where both involved.

Extension has taken lead in calling State garden conference in New Haven for representatives of all organizations interested in Victory gardens, for deciding on garden policy for State and outlining program for promoting garden activity.

Home-living program.-- Extension's Wartime-Living Committee has prepared schedule of "jobs of the month" to be emphasized throughout year in home-living program. Teaching medium will be series of folders, distributed through county offices, listing important jobs for family each month, with suggestions for carrying them out. Series started in December with 4 jobs listed: Keeping the house warm with less fuel; Cutting next year's wood; Butchering, and at the same time cooperating in Share-the-Meat program; Preparing Christmas gifts at home.

Farm machinery.-- Questionnaire card being distributed through county offices to obtain information on spreading use of machinery now on farms. Provides information on custom work now done, cooperative use of machinery, and intentions of farmers for coming season.

MONTANA
January 1

Production 1943.-- State extension staff preparations for initiating 1943 food production program included 2½ day training school for teams going to counties, describing available contributions by agencies, and outlining procedure. Annual extension conference held in December to lay foundation for war work in 1943. Farm labor, machinery repair, production goal procedures, fire control, and related war effort, emphasized throughout program.

Farm labor.-- Extension committee has developed tentative farm labor program, emphasizing youth mobilization and training. Program in conference phase; will go to State labor committee for approval.

One county agent's sugar beet labor program was responsible for harvesting 45 percent of the 4,100 acres of sugar beets in county. Voluntary help included school children, town people, Indians, and farm families. Sugar beet subcommittee of county labor committee kept detailed surveys, by farms, of progress in beet harvest throughout season, and directed workers to places where needed most. Also organized crews and furnished transportation to farms. Approximately 20,000 tons of sugar beets saved by program of volunteer workers.

Hogs.-- To bring about maximum hog production, one county planning two bred, gilt sales to be held in March. During December, county agent encouraged hog breeders to breed a number of gilts to be sold. As result, over 200 gilts held back for breeding purposes will be sold in the sales.

Transportation.- Madison and Jefferson County agents devoted much time to transportation problem due to distances from rationing boards. In Cascade County, one active home demonstration club has a well organized car club. The women live as far as 25 miles apart.

Activities - county agents.- Agents in individual counties have been active in assisting farmers with Certificates of War Necessity, applications for trucks, machinery rationing, priority forms, etc.

Home demonstration agents.- Home demonstration agents have conducted series of meetings on Building Stronger Americans; arranged with local nurses to give meetings on care of communicable diseases; publicized Share-the-Meat program; cooperated with OCD in training air raid wardens; organized Red Cross home nursing classes; advised farm women on making good use of left-overs. Members of home demonstration clubs have cooperated in many service programs of Army groups, donated food to canteens and USO, and helped furnish and equip day rooms for soldiers.

Salvage.- In Fergus County, after training meetings in 97 neighborhoods, men and women leaders conducted scrap metal surveys, resulting in shipping of a million pounds of metal.

Soil conservation.- Meetings held in 3 counties to discuss how SCS program can contribute to production drive.

SOUTH DAKOTA
January 1

Production 1943.- Plans made by State War Board to launch 1943 production campaign in every county first week in January. 15 Extension State office personnel assuming responsibility for 2 counties each; balance of counties will be taken by SCS and FSA personnel. Will represent State War Board in counties and assist county War Boards in planning community meetings and holding county Mobilization Day. Training school arranged. County agent will assume responsibility for presenting economic background and goals in county.

Four 2-day district conferences held for training district agents in subject matter. Subjects: Production goals, agricultural outlook, seed testing and treating, new-variety grain program, grain-storage insects, cattle-grub control, meat production, etc.

Home food production.- Statewide program for home food production planned. Will include not only garden phases, but related subject matter with respect nutrition, preservation, and other home-economics subjects. Printed leaflet prepared for distribution, and project will be discussed with county and home demonstration agents at district conferences starting January 20.

Share-the-meat.- All home demonstration agents have continued work on share-the-meat, with a demonstration on the use of meat alternates prepared by extension nutritionist.

Planning.-- During December all homemaking specialists evaluated their respective projects for annual report in light of their contribution to war effort, and have prepared their 1943 plans to make work fit into the South Dakota families' wartime needs.

TEXAS
January 1

Farm mobilization.-- Food production conference held December 22 at college of representatives all agencies working with agriculture, followed by three USDA War Board subdistrict meetings in each extension district. District agents headed extension group attending each meeting; discussed productive potentialities of 535,000 boys and girls.

Cooperative feed buying.-- Short feed crops in some sections and abundance in others, caused specialist in organization and marketing to develop method of cooperative buying by feeders from feed producers. Pooling of orders and cooperative purchases increasing rapidly. Estimated farmers save \$500 a carload. Feed purchases has gone largely into production of eggs, poultry, pork, milk. At least 100 counties will participate.

Beef cattle.-- Systematic campaign under way to control cattle grubs. State conference of agency representatives in November outlined plan of control by combination dip and spray method. Campaign carried to counties. Cattle men cooperating.

Cotton.-- Cotton farmers counseled to plant only approved seed in 1943; use fertilizer when practical; treat seed with ceresan; control insects by proper use of poison; harvest carefully have cotton ginned properly. Complete data on production and spinning performance of varieties being given producers through agents and at group meetings.

Poultry.-- Relative merits of plate testing and tube testing of turkeys for pullorum being established by tests on 20,000 breeding birds in one area. Turkey grading schools conducted for fourth consecutive year.

Victory Gardens.-- Garden circular in preparation will name best vegetable kinds and varieties for war food production. Planting plans included for large and small home gardens, school and community gardens. Plans drafted for unified recommendations kinds and varieties: fruits suitable for different areas. "Backyard fruit collection" designed for townspeople and suburban home owners with limited planting space.

Home food supply.-- Marketing committees composed of representatives of each community determined food needs of counties, using Texas Food Standard as measuring stick. Objective -- to decide what foods could be produced to supply needs of county; what foods must be bought to feed families; what surplus foods could be produced and sold in order to buy other needed food.

Mohair grading and marketing.-- Under arrangement between Texas A&M College and Texas Mohair Grading Committee, a million and a quarter pounds marketed on graded basis during fall and winter at estimated \$50,000 profit to producers. Resulting release of wool has contributed to war effort.

Game management.- 4-H wildlife conservation and game management program under way for 1943. Attention directed to operation of farm and ranch fish ponds. Extension assisting both Federal and State hatcheries in delivery of fish cooperatively to various counties.

Negro activities.- Training meetings held for Victory leaders on share-the-meat program. Negro agents gave 66 demonstrations on butchering and curing pork in 21 counties.

Negro county and community Agricultural Victory Councils, 52 counties, report collection of 191,229 pounds metal; 29,855 pounds rubber; 16,476 rags and bones; and 27,801 pounds tin cans. Community and neighborhood leaders directed the work. War bond and stamp rallies in 45 counties sold \$6,196.80 worth.

Sixty-six Negro 4-H Club boys selected to receive one registered pig each from a commercial concern as foundation stock to increase pork production for war-time meat needs. Feed rations worked out jointly by boys and county agent.